

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending in the application. The claims are arranged as follows:

- Independent claim 1 and its dependent claims 2, 3, 12, 13, 16 and 2-22;
- Independent claim 4 and its dependent claims 5-9 and 11;
- Independent claim 10;
- Independent claim 14 and its dependent claim 15;
- Independent claim 17 and its dependent claims 18 and 19.

It is noted with appreciation that the Examiner has indicated that claims 1-9, 11-13 and 17-22 have been allowed. On the other hand, the Examiner has rejected claims 10 and 14-16.

Applicant believes that the Examiner has made a mistake by, first, including claim 16 as one of the rejected claims and, second, by referencing claim 17 in the rejection. *See* Office Action at page 5, top. Since claim 16 depends from claim 1, claim 16 should be allowed. Also, it is presumed that claim 17 is allowed as per ¶ 7 of the Office Action. Thus, it would appear that the only remaining rejected claims are claims 10, 14 and 15.

To place the application in condition for allowance and without prejudice, Applicant has canceled rejected claims 10, 14 and 15.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Application No.: 10/769,750

Attorney Docket No.: Q79642

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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